

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Doug Ellis
Public Information and Policy Development Coordinator

DATE: December 15, 1999

SUBJECT: Changing the I-134 Dollar Amounts by Amending WAC 390-05-400

RCW 42.17.690 requires the Public Disclosure Commission to review the dollar amounts established by Initiative 134 at the beginning of each even-numbered year.

The formula for accomplishing this inflationary adjustment is set out in statute. That formula mandates that each 1992 value be multiplied by the level of inflation as estimated by the Implicit Price Deflator (IPD). The product of this multiplication is the "target amount" for each dollar value. For example, multiplying the 1.165 IPD times \$500 results in a target amount of \$582.50. The actual adjusted amount adopted by the Commission must be within 10% of this target amount and "convenient for public understanding."

The following attachment of WAC 390-05-400 shows the dollar amounts as amended in February of 1998, the "target amount" as formulated by multiplying the IPD by the 1992 values and the staff recommend amounts proposed for the 2000 values. Almost all of the proposed values are essentially equal to the target amount for that value, give or take a few cents or dollars.

A public hearing is scheduled on January 25, 2000 to take public comments on amending WAC 390-05-400. If approved, the new dollar amounts could then officially take effect on March 1, 2000.

The Commission could decide that the proposed values should be adjusted to a different level, so long as that level is within 10% of the target amount for each value. Or, they could determine that the current values should remain in place for the 2000 elections. (Since inflation has been low, the existing dollar amounts are, in fact, within 10% of the respective target amounts.)

If you have any comments concerning this amendment or the proposed changes in the dollar amounts please contact me at (360) 664-2735 or you can submit written comments to The Public Disclosure Commission, 711 Capitol Way, Room 403, Olympia, WA, 98504 by Friday, January 14, 2000.

WAC 390-05-400 **Changes in Dollar Amounts.** Pursuant to the requirement in RCW 42.17.690 that the commission biennially revise the dollar amounts found in Initiative 134 to reflect changes in economic conditions, the following revisions are made:

Code Section	Subject Matter	1998 Amount	Target Amount	Staff Rec.
.020	Definition of “Independent Expenditure”	\$575	\$582.50	\$600
.125	Reimbursement of Candidate for loan to own campaign	\$3,500	\$3,495	\$3,800
.180(1)	Report-- Applicability of provisions to Persons who made contributions Persons who made independent Expenditures	\$11,500 \$575	\$11,650 \$582.50	\$12,000 \$600
.640(1)	Contribution Limits— Candidates for state leg. office Candidates for other state office	\$575 \$1,150	\$582.50 \$1,165	\$600 \$1,200
.640(2)	Contribution Limits— State official up for recall or pol comm. supporting recall— State Legislative Office Other State Office	\$575 \$1,150	\$582.50 \$1,165	\$600 \$1,200
.640(3)	Contribution Limits— Contributions made by political parties and caucus committees State parties and caucus committees County and leg. district parties Limit for all county and leg. District parties to a candidate	.58 per voter .29 per voter .29 per voter	.583 .291 .291	.60 .30 .30
.640(4)	Contribution Limits— contributions made by pol. parties & caucus committees to state official up for recall or committee supporting recall State parties and caucuses County and leg. district parties Limit for all county & leg. district parties to state official up for recall or pol. comm. supporting recall	.58 per voter .29 per voter .29 per voter	.583 .291 .291	.60 .30 .30
.640(6)	Limits on contributions to political parties and caucus committees To caucus committee To political party	\$575 \$2,875	\$582.50 \$2,912.50	\$600 \$3,000
.740	Contribution must be made by written instrument	\$55	\$58.25	\$60